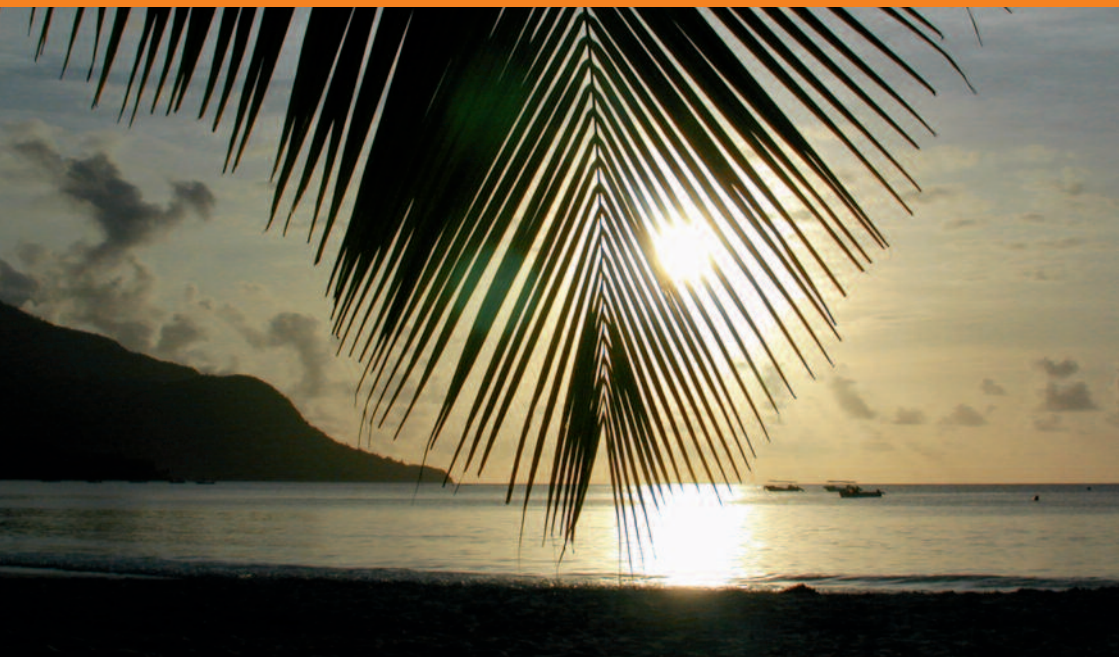




Support our engagement
against Skin Cancer

Skin Cancer Research Association



Skin cancer – the most common cancer

Facts

- Skin is the organ most frequently affected by cancer
- Every fifth person over 60 suffers from some form of skin cancer or precursor lesions
- Switzerland has the second highest increment of melanoma in Europeans under 45
- Skin is an ideal and appropriate model for cancer research
- Skin cancer is mostly curable when it is recognized early
- Skin cancer research is important and needed since
 - for advanced melanoma there is no satisfying treatment available and it is incurable
 - rare skin cancers like cutaneous lymphomas are not yet sufficiently treatable
 - skin cancers like basal cell carcinoma are more frequent in elderly people. For this group of patients it is necessary to develop less aggressive treatment options

Skin Cancer Research Association

Early detection and treatment of skin cancer plays an important role and is a growing area in dermatology with respect to health care policy and economy. In Switzerland, dermato-oncological research is very dynamic but so far not well coordinated.

This has led to the founding of the Skin Cancer Research Association in November 2004 by a group of skin cancer specialists with clinical and research backgrounds.

Our goals

- To support clinical and experimental research in dermatological oncology in order to provide skin cancer patients with latest diagnostic strategies and treatment options by, for example, providing grants to young researchers
- To promote translational research – «from bench to bedside» – so that patients can profit from the latest, most promising research results as soon as possible

- Improvement of skin cancer prevention and aftercare;
In terms of prevention one distinguishes between
 - Primary prevention: teaching the population to carefully manage sun exposure and avoid sun damage
 - Secondary prevention: early detection of skin cancer via regular selfexamination and periodical dermatological check-ups in case of ambiguous skin lesions

Aftercare ensures that people who have previously suffered from skin cancer do not endure further skin cancers through early recognition of malignant skin lesions

- Promotion of continuous medical education and information for physicians, medical staff, pharmacists and non-medical workers such as hairdressers and pedicurists
- Public education to increase general awareness on skin cancer

Examples of future activities

- To create therapeutic guidelines according to the WHO skin cancer classification
- To encourage the certification of Hospitals/centres according to international standards
- Announcement of an annual advancement award, which will be granted at the annual meeting of the Swiss society for dermatology and venerology (SSDV /SGDV) in order to promote improved care for skin cancer patients
- Attendance and co-initiation of Swiss skin cancer days in spring
- Biannual newsletter for members
- Close co-operation of board members of the Skin Cancer Research Association with the Swiss Cancer League (Krebsliga Schweiz) as well as membership in other relevant Swiss boards such as Swiss Cancer Network
- Close and intensive network of board members with members of other international skin cancer societies and forums

Members

Membership in the Skin Cancer Research Association is open to all persons and legal entities, e.g. medical doctors, interested individuals, companies or foundations.

Funding

The Skin Cancer Research Association is funded, together with returns and membership dues, mainly through contributions from individuals and foundations as well as company sponsoring.

Donors can decide for themselves which grants they wish to support:

- **General granting to the Skin Cancer Research Association in order to**
 - improve skin cancer patients' health care all over Switzerland
 - recognize skin cancer and its precursor lesions earlier and therefore increase the cure rate
 - to intensify the awareness for skin cancer in expert circles through specific education and training activities

- **Project associated granting for**
 - national campaigns and awareness-activities, especially in spring and summer, for a broad population, including information days with free identification of skin type and corresponding media relations
 - information brochures for the broader population
 - national and international expert conferences
 - research projects
 - research awards

Fund raising methods

- Annual dues

- Dues that are warranted over several years, e.g. three year arrangements with the subsequent possibility for extension

- Singular dues (e.g.) legacies

Dues/legacies are tax-deductible; we will gladly issue confirmations of contribution

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